

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 06861 221543Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 PER-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
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O R 221422Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1713
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSAFE/POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US
SUBJECT: PRESS PLAY ON APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE

REF: ATHENS 6805 (DTG 211358Z JUL 77)

1. THE GREEK PRESS TODAY (JULY 22) ANNOUNCED IN EFFECT THAT THE "SCHAUFLE AFFAIR" HAS BEEN PUT "ON ICE," AT LEAST UNTIL SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS MEET AT THE UNGA IN SEPTEMBER. ALL STORIES ARE BASED PRIMARILY ON COMMENTS LAST EVENING ATTRIBUTED TO BITSIOS, IN WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAD RECEIVED CHARGE MILLS AND THAT BITSIOS AND SECRETARY VANCE WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER FURTHER AT THE UNGA WHEN THEY WILL MEET IN LATE SEPTEMBER. PRESS PLAY IS DEFINITE
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 06861 221543Z

IN STATING THAT UNTIL THAT TIME, AMBASSADOR SHCAUFELE WILL NOT COME TO GREECE, AND MANY JOURNALS SPECUALTE THAT DEVELOPMENTS SIGNIFY THE APPOINTMENT WILL BE WITHDRAWN.

2. THE COVERAGE ALSO CONTAINS PORTIONS OF THE SECOND AP STORY BY GEORGE GEDDA FROM WASHINGTON (REFTEL), AND REPRINTS A STATEMENT YESTERDAY BY GEORGE MAVROS, LEADER OF THE PRINCIPAL

OPPOSITION UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC CENTER (UDC) PARTY. MAVROS DECLARED THAT THE TEXT OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S TESTIMONY LEFT NO MARGIN FOR SETTling THE GRAVE ISSUE WHICH HAD ARISEN. HE CONTINUED THAT THE TESTIMONY QUITE CLEARLY SHOWED THE (US) OBJECTIVE OF SETTling THE AEGEAN CRISIS THROUGH GREEK "CON-CESSIONS," REPEATING THE TURKISH POSITION. MAVROS CONCLUDED "IT WOULD SERVE THE INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO REVOKE MR. SCHAUFLE'S MISSION." THE CONDEMNATORY REMARKS BY JOHN ZIGDIS, A PROMINENT FIGURE IN OPPOSITION CIRCLES, WERE ALSO WIDELY QUOTED.

3. OPPOSITION, LIBERAL TO VIMA'S NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT EFSTATHIADES WROTE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO MAKE THE TEXT OF THE TESTIMONY ACCEPTABLE HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL AND THAT HE, EFSTATHIADES, POSSESSED THE FULL TEXT OF WHAT IT CALLED THE OFFICIAL VERSION OF THE SFRC TRANSCRIPT, WHILE OTHER NEWSPAPERS GAVE VARIOUS SEGMENTS OF THE TEXT. INFLUENTIAL POLITICAL COLUMNIST GEORGE DROSSOS, WRITING IN INDEPENDENT KATHIMERINI, OPINED THAT IN VIEW OF WHT HAD OCCURRED, IT WOULD BE BEST FOR AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE NOT TO TAKE UP HIS MISSION TO GREECE.

4. ILLUSTRATIVE HEADLINES INCLUDE: TO VIMA: "BITSIOS-VANCE TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT IN SEPTEMBER--SCHAUFLE'S COMING POSTPONED INDEFINITELY;" KATHIMERINI: "WITHOUT OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM WASHINGTON YET TACTFULLY THE APPOINTMENT OF SCHAUFLE IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ATHENS 06861 221543Z

DEFINITELY CANCELLED--HIS ARRIVAL IN ATHENS WAS POSTPONED INDEFINITELY;" EXTREME RIGHT ELEFTHEROS COSMOS: "THE SCHAUFLE MATTER IN REFRIGERATION UNTIL SEPTEMBER WHEN BITSIOS AND VANCE WILL MEET;" ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ESTIA: THERE HAS BEEN AGREED A FORMULA FOR THE MATTER OF MR. SCHAUFLE;" CENTER-LEFTIST TA NEA: "SCHAUFLE DOES NOT COME TO ATHENS--THE AMBASSADOR IS FINISHED -- WASHINGTON HAS CONSIDERED THE REPERCUSSIONS -- THE GOG DID NOT DECLARE HIM PERSONNA NON GRATA;" PRO-GOVERNMENT APOGEVMATINI: "THE SCHAUFLE ISSUE IS ON ICE UNTIL SEPTEMBER A BITSIOS: WE SHALL DISCUSS IT WITH MR. VANCE."

5. THE LATEST RADIO AND TV NEWS PROGRAMS QUOTE A DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICIAL AS SAYING THE USG WILL DELAY SENDING AN AMBASSADOR TO GREECE UNTIL THE GREEK ANGER SUBSIDES. MILLS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, PRESS COMMENTS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ATHENS06861
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770731/aaaabadb.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 43c4ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US, (SCHAUFELLE, WILLIAM E JR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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